

REMARKS

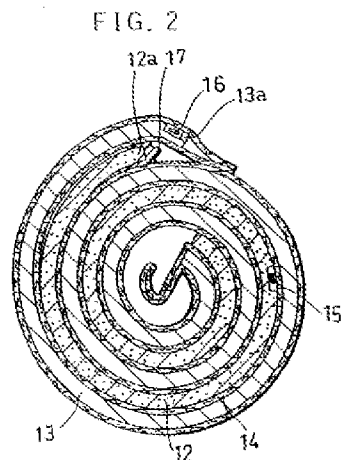
I. Rejections Under 35 USC § 112

Claims 17-19 were rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite because of insufficient antecedent basis for the limitation "the overlapping region." Claim 17 has been amended to depend from claim 2.

II. Rejections Under 35 USC § 103

Claims 1-19 stand rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shimizu et al. (US 6,391,488) in view of Urry (US 4,333,994). The rejection relies primarily upon Shimizu as disclosing a coiled electrode for an electrochemical cell and secondarily upon Urry as disclosing a coiled electrode wherein the thickness of the outermost layer of winding is less than the thickness of the remaining windings.

To clarify the claimed subject matter of the present invention, claim 1 has been amended to specify that the current collector is coextensive with the outer winding of the coiled electrode. As shown in Fig. 2 of Shimizu, anode current collector 16, although being on the outside surface of the outermost winding, is merely a tab that is not coextensive with the outer winding of the coiled electrode.



Urry does not have a current collector on the outside surface of the outermost winding.

Accordingly, an obviousness rejection of claim 1, as well as the dependent claims 2-19, on the basis of Shimizu and Urry is without support.

III. Conclusion

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted the claims distinguish over the prior art and that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this Amendment, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned attorney to attend to those matters.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

/Girma Wolde-Michael/
Girma Wolde-Michael
Reg. No. 36,724
(763) 514-6402
Customer No. 27581